

REMARKS

This Amendment addresses the issues outstanding from the Office Action dated July 12, 2007. Applicants respectfully request favorable reconsideration of this application, as amended.

The claims and the abstract have been revised to address the Examiner's formal objections.

Also, in accordance with the Examiner's request, Applicants are submitting an Information Disclosure Statement herewith to make of record the Japanese Laid-Open Publication corresponding to Japanese Application No. 2003-89691, cited on page 3 of the specification. The documents cited in the International Search Report and the International Preliminary Report on Patentability are also being made of record. Copies of both international reports have also been provided.

A further action on the merits is respectfully requested.

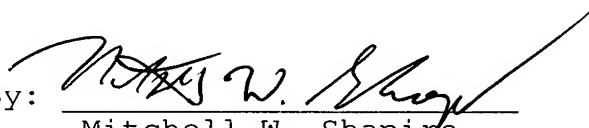
The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge to Deposit Account No. 50-1165 (XA-10437) any fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 and 1.17 that may be required by this paper and to credit any overpayment to that Account. If any

extension of time is required in connection with the filing of this paper and has not been separately requested, such extension is hereby requested.

Respectfully submitted,

November 6, 2007

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